

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1220

Introduced by Assembly Member Berg

February 21, 2003

An act to amend Section 104100 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to disease prevention.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1220, as introduced, Berg. Cardiovascular disease.

Existing law requires the State Department of Health Services to administer various programs related to disease prevention and health promotion, including a program for the control of high blood pressure.

This bill would make a technical, nonsubstantive change to these provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 104100 of the Health and Safety Code
2 is amended to read:
3 104100. The Legislature finds and declares that high blood
4 pressure, also known as hypertension, is a widespread and serious
5 public health problem in California. This condition, when
6 untreated, is a major contributor to heart disease, stroke, kidney
7 disease, and related cardiovascular morbidity and mortality.
8 Although high blood pressure can be effectively controlled
9 through the use of now well established antihypertensive drugs,
10 treatment is not always adequately utilized.

1 It is estimated that there are two million adults in California who
2 have high blood pressure. It is further estimated, based on national
3 data, that no more than 71 percent of all adult Californians with
4 high blood pressure are aware of their condition, and that of those
5 who are aware, only 40 percent are being effectively treated. Thus,
6 of some two million California adults with high blood pressure,
7 only about 568,000 have their condition adequately controlled.
8 Unless the problem of uncontrolled high blood pressure among
9 some 1,432,000 adults is promptly addressed, many of these
10 individuals will experience preventable serious illness, disability,
11 and death. In addition, the state will continue to face unnecessary
12 medical and welfare costs resulting from high blood pressure and
13 its resulting effects. Consequently, it is necessary to provide for
14 expanded statewide efforts, interface with relevant federal
15 legislation, establish and maintain appropriate guidelines, and
16 enhance high blood pressure control activities at the community
17 level. Coordination of local and state efforts in the planning,
18 implementation, and evaluation of high blood pressure control
19 activities is required, in order to improve allocations and
20 utilization of resources to control high blood pressure in the states
21 population.

